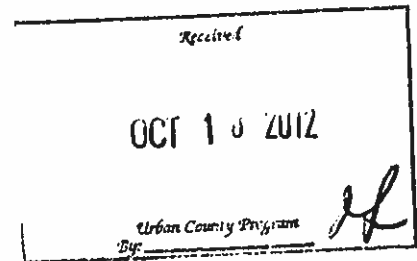




**American
Red Cross**

South Texas Chapter

6914 West Expressway 83
P. O. Box 2202
Harlingen, TX 78551-2202
Tel (956) 423-0523
Fax (956) 423-0542



October 18, 2012

Urban County Program
Diana R. Serna, Director
1916 Tesoro Blvd.
Pharr, Texas 78577

RE: Response to the Monitoring Report on ESG Activities

Dear Ms. Serna,

In receipt of your Monitoring Report dated October 15, 2012, I am responding to the one (1) concern found on the Financial Management. The concern was that American Red Cross is not submitting reimbursements on a monthly basis. We stopped submitting reimbursements after Irma Garza, Monitor, informed us that HUD would no longer reimburse for the credit card expenses. In addition, the Hotel /Motel would also not be reimbursed unless we obtained a letter from the Salvation Army prior to assisting the family. Just recently, on October 4, 2012, Irma Garza informed us that HUD had approved and waived the requirement on the letter from the Salvation Army.

In addition, American Red Cross regrets to inform you that we are not able to continue with the 2011 and 2012 ESG contracts based on the fact that the services are provided to clients suffering an emergency disaster and we never know when it will happen. Also, it is difficult on the new requirements such as meeting the 30% median income, because the American Red Cross does not discriminate based on income. We help everyone that requests assistance. Therefore, I am letting you know so that you can reallocate these funds to another agency that can utilize these funds immediately.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (956) 423-0523 Ext. 100.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Guerra
Cynthia Guerra
Executive Director

**URBAN COUNTY
PROGRAM**
Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court
Agenda Request Form

No. 2793

Date: June 27, 2011 Meeting Date Request: July 5, 2011
 Deadline for Action: July 5, 2011 Contact Person: Diana R. Serna
 Department: Urban County Program Phone: (956) 787-8127 Fax: (956) 787-5291

Diana R. Serna, Urban County Director *DRS*

Caption:

The Urban County Program requests approval of Emergency Solutions Grant Program Subrecipient Agreements with the following for Program Year 24 (2011). (See attached exhibits)

Advocacy Resource Center for Housing (ARCH)	Mujeres Unidas/Women Together
American Red Cross	
Catholic Charities of the RGV	

Background:

<u>Subrecipient</u>	<u>Total Funding Amount</u>
Advocacy Resource Center for Housing (ARCH)	\$ 58,657.00
American Red Cross	\$ 44,438.00
Catholic Charities of the RGV	\$ 56,944.00
Mujeres Unidas/Women Together	\$ 191,745.00

gr agreements reviewed by legal on 6/21/11

Deputy Dir. *DRS* Finance

Please initial for approval:

Legal Counsel _____ Budget _____ Human Resources _____
 Dept./Fund No: _____ Amt. Expended: \$ _____ Funds/Staffing Budgeted: Yes _____ No _____
 Account Code: _____ Impact on Future Budget: Yes _____ No _____

Comments:

APPROVED Co. Comm. C.
 DATE 7-5-11 *DRS*

URBAN COUNTY PROGRAM

Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court Agenda Request Form

FILE COP

No. 3382
Nancy V. Hernandez

Date: August 17, 2012 Meeting Date Request: September 4, 2012
 Deadline for Action: September 4, 2012 Contact Person: Diana R. Serna
 Department: Urban County Program Phone: (956) 787-8127 Fax: (956) 787-5291

Diana R. Serna, Urban County Director *[Signature]*

Caption: The Urban County Program requests approval of the Emergency Solutions Grants Program Sub-Recipient Agreements with the following for Program year 25 (2012). See attached Agreements.

#	Sub-Recipient Agency	Total Contract Amount
1	Advocacy Resource Center for Housing, Inc.	\$132,380.75
2	Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley	\$177,000.00
3	American Red Cross - South Texas Chapter	\$ 50,000.00
4	Women Together Foundation, Inc.	\$189,028.03
5	The Salvation Army	\$ 68,500.00
TOTAL:		\$616,908.78

Background: The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) has approved the One Year Action Plan for Year 25 (2012) and among the plan includes the following agencies:

#	Sub-Recipient Agency	Total Contract Amount
1	Advocacy Resource Center for Housing, Inc.	\$132,380.75
2	Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley	\$177,000.00
3	American Red Cross - South Texas Chapter	\$ 50,000.00
4	Women Together Foundation, Inc.	\$189,028.03
5	The Salvation Army	\$ 68,500.00
TOTAL:		\$616,908.78

The subrecipient agreements were reviewed as to forms by Steve Crain on August 16, 2012.

Approval is recommended.

Deputy Director *[Signature]* Finance *[Signature]*

Please initial for approval:

Legal Counsel _____ Budget _____ Human Resources _____

Dept./Fund No: _____

Account Code: _____

Comments: _____

Impact on Future Budget: Yes _____ No _____

Amt. Expended: \$ _____ Funds/Staffing Budgeted: Yes _____ No _____

Action taken by Commissioner's Court:

Approved _____ Tabled _____ Denied _____ Motion made by _____ Seconded _____ Vote _____

RECEIVED
SEP 11

APPROVED Co. Comm. Ct.
DATE 9-4-12 *[Signature]*

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